

Appl. No. 10/043,344
Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11 (as amended by the Preliminary Amendment, dated January 11, 2002) with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation of ~~depending~~ United States Patent Application No. 08/649,518 filed May 17, 1996 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,361,779), which itself is a continuation-in-part of ~~depending~~ United States Patent Application No. 08/483,577, filed June 7, 1995 (now US U.S. Patent No. 6,015,698), which itself is a continuation-in-part of ~~depending~~ United States Patent Application No. 08/337,483, filed November 8, 1994 (now US U.S. Patent No. 5,922,562), which itself is a continuation-in-part of ~~depending~~ United States Patent Application No. 08/175,116 filed December 29, 1993 (now abandoned), which itself is a continuation-in-part of ~~depending~~ United States Patent Application No. 08/148,968, filed November 8, 1993 (now abandoned).

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Certain plasmids that contain at least a portion coding for a transferrin receptor from strains of *Haemophilus influenzae* that are described and referred to herein have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) located at Rockville, Maryland USA 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, USA pursuant to the Budapest Treaty and prior to the filing of this application. Samples of the deposited plasmids will become available to the public upon grant of a patent based upon this United States patent application. The invention described and claimed herein is not to be limited in scope by plasmids deposited, since the deposited embodiment is intended only as an illustration of the invention. Any equivalent or similar plasmids that encode similar or equivalent antigens as described in this application are within the scope of the invention.